

Annual Meeting Provincial Board Directors Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

Mrs. Harvey Houston, Public Relations Officer

The Annual Meeting of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario met at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, January 13-17, 1975. Mrs. Harvey Noblitt presided during the sessions. The Annual Meeting was delayed because the ACWW Conference was held in Perth, Australia in October, thus delaying Area Conventions, making it necessary to carry the annual meeting into the new year.

This was the year of change, a newly elected president, Mrs. Herbert K. Maluske, a newly appointed secretary treasurer, Mrs. Earl Morden, sixteen new Board Directors and four new conveners. Mrs. Percy Findlay, Alternate Board Director, attended the meeting representing Subdivision I.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Noblitt stressed FWIO is being asked to get involved in more and more issues and with other organizations and government. We do want to keep abreast of current issues and to help in whatever way we can to improve our communities, whether they be the local, provincial, national or international. However we must be careful to establish priorities and contain our priorities within the framework and objectives of FWIO and within manageable proportions.

Mrs. Noblitt complimented the Area Executives for their fine Conventions and was pleased to see fine exhibits of crafts, good displays by PRO's and Conveners.

A special "thank-you" was extended to all who assisted during her term of office.

OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

Mrs. Robt. B. Weber, Conference Secretary Treasurer, reported on last year's Conference held at the University of Waterloo. It included a bus trip into Mennonite Country of Waterloo County; the operetta Pirates of Penzance by Waterloo Oxford District Secondary School Glee Club; Dr. T. Hadwen speaking on Stress in Rural Ontario.

However most important were the discussion groups and plenary sessions which involved 614 delegates and 30 staff.

1975 OFFICERS' CONFERENCE — April 29-30, May 1, University of Waterloo.

POOLING FEE — \$50.00 — no extra charges for coffee, shuttle buses or bus trip to Erland Lee Home.

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Branch level — Secretary Treasurers
or Agriculture and Canadian Industries Convener
or Members at Large

District level — Agriculture and Canadian Industries Convener

Area level — Agriculture and Canadian Industries Convener

IMPORTANT — This is Mrs. Weber's last year as Secretary Treasurer of Officers' Conference according to the Handbook and it is important that a Women's

Institute member work with her during this Conference with the thought that she might be appointed next year. If any one is interested or knows of a capable person write to FWIO office giving details.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mrs. Wm. G. Miller

FWIO Membership

Number of Branches 1,290

Number of Members 30,775

Number of Branch Life Members 2,736

All business and correspondence was dealt with appropriately. Committee meetings were attended with information and files available. The Toronto Dominion Bank Investment Department advised on all investments and re-investments and all securities are in safekeeping at the T.D. Bank.

Hospitality requests were dealt with and W.I. visitors were made welcome.

Greetings were extended at the Girls' Conference, the Junior Women's Institute Spring Board Meeting. She represented FWIO at the Royal Winter Fair annual meeting and was one of the voting delegates at the ACWW Conference in Perth.

Mrs. Miller has completed her term of office and was appreciative of all the assistance given both by the Ministry and W.I. members.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

Mrs. Noblitt had discussed with the Area Vice President for the South Pacific, when attending the ACWW Conference, the possibility of assisting the South African Union of Homemakers for coloured women. The money would be used to assist a trainee to run courses, this woman would go out into the rural areas and teach appropriate courses.

The recommendation was presented to the Board and was accepted to send \$4,000.00 to the Lady Aberdeen Scholarship Committee at the ACWW office, with the suggestion that if aid was a priority for the South African Union of Homemakers that ACWW make the necessary arrangements to send no more than \$2,000.00 to this group.

A further recommendation that the remaining \$2,000.00 be used by the Lady Aberdeen Committee at their own discretion.

ONTARIO STATUS OF WOMEN COUNCIL'S CONFERENCE ON FAMILY PROPERTY LAW

Mrs. Shirley Bird

In October, 1974, the Ontario Status of Women Council's Conference on Family Property Law was sponsored by the Secretariat for Social Development of the Ontario Government. This Conference was called "Fair Share" as the Attorney General's Department asked the Ontario Status of Women Council how Ontario women felt about revisions proposed to be made in Property Law by the Ontario Law Reform Commission.

Four hundred women were selected from all over